GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PLANNING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:10
ANSWERED ON:16.11.2016
Level of Poverty and Number of Poor People
Vellaigounder Shri Elumalai

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether as per the report of NITI Aayog, the level of poverty and the number of poor people in the country have come down;
(b) if so, the details thereof;
(c) the norms/criteria adopted for deciding the level of poverty in this report and the current criteria for the same; and
(d) whether there is any proposal to review these norms/criteria and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR MINISTRY OF PLANNING
AND MINISTER OF STATE FOR MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND
MINISTRY OF HOUSING & URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION

(RAO INDERJIT SINGH)

(a) to (d): The official poverty estimates are based on data of Large Sample Surveys on Household Consumer Expenditure carried out by the National Sample Survey Office (NSSO) of the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation. These surveys are normally conducted on quinquennial basis. The latest data of Large Sample Survey on Household Consumer Expenditure has been collected by NSSO in its 68th round conducted in 2011-12. No new equivalent survey has been done by NSSO since 2011-12. Therefore, no new poverty estimates are possible unless there is a change in the official poverty line. At present the official poverty line remains the Tendulkar line at which the existing estimates relating to 2011-12 have been computed and released through a Press Note issued on 22nd July 2013.